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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 10/588,338 | 08/03/2006 | Toshiyuki Yoshikawa | KUZ0033US.NP | 9785 |
| 26259 | 7590 | 10/24/2007 | EXAMINER | |
| LICATA & TYRRELL P.C. 66 E. MAIN STREET MARLTON, NJ 08053 | | | | MOONEY, MICHAEL P |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| | | 2883 | | |
| NOTIFICATION DATE | | DELIVERY MODE | | |
| 10/24/2007 | | ELECTRONIC | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

poreilly@licataandtyrrell.com

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| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/588,338 | YOSHIKAWA ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Michael P. Mooney | 2883 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/3/06</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshihiro et al. (JP 11-223812) and further in view of Uchida et al. (20020154260)/Tomohiro et al. (JP 2001-305335).

Yoshihiro et al. teaches a backlight device for a liquid crystal display, comprising at least a light diffuser plate, a light source disposed at a backside of the light diffuser plate (fig. 1), and a reflector for reflecting light from the light source, wherein a liquid crystal panel is disposed at a frontside of the light diffuser plate (fig. 1), and direct light from said light source and reflected light from said reflector diffuse into and transmit through said light diffuser plate to illuminate said liquid crystal panel from backside (fig. 1), said backlight device for a liquid crystal display being configured such that: said light source radiates ultraviolet rays and heat along with visual light (fig. 1), and said light diffuser plate is constrained at least one side thereof (fig. 1),

Although Yoshihiro et al. does not explicitly state the diffusion plate "has a saturated water absorption rate of not more than 0.9% as well as a color difference (.DELTA.E) of not greater than 2.0 as specified in JIS K 7105 after being exposed for 500 hours to an artificial light used for an artificial light source test specified in JIS K7350-2" it would have been obvious to do so because it is conventionally known to use the appropriate materials/design standards for the purpose of ensuring durability/performance/quality standards for the purpose of ensuring a quality working product.

It is further noted that a variety of materials are disclosed not only by Yoshihiro et al. but also by Uchida et al. (20020154260)/Tomohiro et al. (JP 2001-305335). It is conventionally known to incorporate the appropriate materials in order to meet accepted design standards and combining Yoshihiro/ Uchida/ Tomohiro would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill for the purpose meeting the conventional design standards in the diffuser plate art.

Therefore, by the reasons and references given above, each and every element of each of claims 2-7 is rendered as obvious by Yoshihiro/ Uchida/ Tomohiro (see in particular Yoshihiro fig. 1). Thus claims 2-7 are rejected.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P. Mooney whose telephone number is 571-272-2422. The examiner can normally be reached during weekdays, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 571-272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael P. Mooney
Michael P. Mooney
Examiner
Art Unit 2883

Frank G. Font

Frank G. Font
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2883

FGF/mpm
10/1/07